

Rt. 12, Frederick Md. 21701  
2/21/77

Mr. Ken Witty  
CBS Reports  
530 W 57 St.,  
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Witty,

People who do not meet their obligations or do not pay their bills are not always deadbeats or crooks. Sometimes they are only self-important.

Like CBS.

More than six months ago I took some time with you to be helpful to you. On your word I sent you a copy of an out-of-print book, Oswald in New Orleans.

You had a choice between paying me or returning the book with a copy clear enough for xeroxing so I could have copies xeroxed for others more easily than is now possible for me. You did neither.

After more than a reasonable time passed I phoned you. You were sorry but you would take care of it right away.

And have not.

I would like you to immediately.

Over the years I have taken much time for CBS, without pay for it.

They pay you. They hire and pay consultants. I'll bet they even pay their phone and electric bills, too.

So CBS can pay me, too.

In addition to the book for my time on this.

My time is as valuable to me as yours is to you or to CBS. Maybe more so because I am a one-man operation, have undertaken a large work and will soon be 64.

Counting the time we spoke, the time required to make and insure and mail the package and the time for letters I estimate you have taken a half of a normal working day of my time.

I don't know what CBS pays you but whatever it is I'll accept pay for this half-day at that rate. Please add that to what CBS owes me.

As I remember it I offered you unpublished materials and a certain amount of other help because you described a worthwhile project. I do not feel this way now.

I do feel that you and CBS have behaved badly, have imposed on my trust and willingness to be helpful and have been insufferably thoughtless or arrogant.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg